

09/674442  
526 Rec'd PCT/FTO 01 NOV 2000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors: Hiroyuki EHARA et al.

Application No.: New PCT Application

Filed: November 1, 2000

For: EXCITATION VECTOR GENERATING APPARATUS AND SPEECH  
CODING/DECODING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

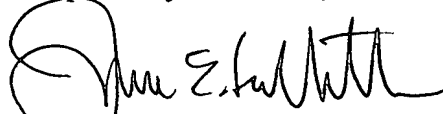
Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the references listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. The JP '596, JP '700, JP '098, and two articles by Yasunaga et al. (3-2-17 and 3-2-18) were cited in a PCT International Search Report (copy attached) in the corresponding PCT International application.

Applicants present these references so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106. Applicants respectfully request that these references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter  
Registration No. 28,732

Date: November 1, 2000  
JEL/jph  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. L9289.00109  
STEVENS DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.  
1615 L Street, NW, SUITE 850  
P.O. BOX 34387  
Washington, DC 20043-4387  
Telephone: (202) 408-5100  
Facsimile: (202) 408-5200